

Avoiding Bear Problems

The best way to avoid bear problems is to take precautions to not attract them in the first place.

NEVER FEED BEARS

If you encounter a bear while in the outdoors, remain calm. **DO NOT PANIC!** Leave the area.

- **Store foods out of a bear's reach, in a vehicle or enclosed trailer.**
- Remove all garbage and store it in enclosed vehicles or trailers.
- Use airtight or bear-proof containers.
- Post watch for entire event for bear activity.

IF you come in contact with a bear:

- **DO NOT PANIC! DON'T APPROACH IT!**
- Make loud noises, bang pans, yell, honk the horn of a vehicle, wave arms.
- Back away slowly.
- Get inside a vehicle and wait for the bear to leave, if it becomes aggressive.
- Most bears fear people and will leave when they see you. If a bear woofs, snaps its jaws, slaps the ground or brush, or bluff charges: **YOU ARE TOO CLOSE! BACK AWAY!**
- Barking dogs, bright lights and noisemakers will sometimes discourage bears from coming into an area.

If the bear refuses to leave:

- Be sure you have allowed the bear an escape route.
- Make loud noises to scare it away.

If the bear is treed:

- **LEAVE IT ALONE!** The bear will usually go away when it feels safe.
- Have people leave the area near the tree.
- Remove dogs from near the tree.